## What is Claimed is:

1. An encrypting keypad module comprising:

a keypad; and

an encryption unit including an interpreter for receiving a file containing data and instructions for processing the data, the encryption unit including means for processing the data in the file by interpreting the instructions in the file.

- 2. A module according to claim 1, wherein the interpreter is implemented in software.
- 3. A module according to claim 1, wherein the interpreter is implemented in firmware.
- 4. A module according to claim 1, wherein the file has a structure comprising tagged commands and data.
- 5. A module according to claim 1, wherein the encrypting keypad module is a single integrated unit.

## 6. A terminal comprising:

an encrypting keypad module having an encryption unit including an interpreter for receiving a file containing data and instructions for processing the data, the encryption unit including means for processing the data in the file by interpreting the instructions in the file.

7. A terminal according to claim 6, wherein the file has a structure comprising tagged commands and data.

## 8. A self-service terminal comprising:

an encrypting keypad module having an encryption unit including an interpreter for receiving a file containing data and instructions for processing the data, the encryption unit including means for processing the data in the file by interpreting the instructions in the file.

9. A terminal according to claim 8, wherein the file has a structure comprising tagged commands and data.

## 10. A point of sale terminal comprising:

an encrypting keypad module having an encryption unit including an interpreter for receiving a file containing data and instructions for processing the data, the encryption unit including means for processing the data in the file by interpreting the instructions in the file.

11. A point of sale terminal according to claim 9, wherein the file has a structure comprising tagged commands and data.

12. An automated teller machine comprising:

an encrypting keypad module having an encryption unit including an interpreter for receiving a file containing data and instructions for processing the data, the encryption unit including means for processing the data in the file by interpreting the instructions in the file.

- 13. An automated teller machine according to claim 12, wherein the file has a structure comprising tagged commands and data.
- 14. A method of encrypting data in an encryption module, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving data to be encrypted and instructions for encrypting the data from a source external to the module;

interpreting the instructions to generate code for implementing the instructions; and

applying the code to a cryptographic processor.